



## Project Status Report for Month Ending April 2014

### A. Basic Information

Name of the Grantee Organization:	Eastern Africa Grain Council (EAGC)			
Project Title:	Promoting an Integrated and Structured Grain Markets in Eastern Africa			
Grant Agreement Number:	EAG-STA-014-032			
Project Period	Startup Date:	March 2014	End date:	July 2014
Project Location:	Countries: Kenya, Uganda , Tanzania , Rwanda and Burundi			

### A. Introduction

This monthly report is submitted to USAID EA Trade Hub with intention to highlight the project performance in relation to the objectives and expected results under the grant agreement. This project seeks to promote an integrated and structured regional grain market that increases efficiency and reliability of grain flows from surplus to deficit areas by addressing some of the impediments to trade. It is expected to achieve the following objectives:

- a) Strengthen EAGC's capacity become a self-sustaining membership based organization providing in-demand services to members and stakeholders;
- b) Increase access and utilization of regional market intelligence and trade information and;
- c) Support the implementation of recently harmonized regional staple foods standards for increased regional trade.

## B. Project Achievements-April 2014

### 1. Strengthen EAGC's Institutional Capacity

This component covers the development of EAGC Business Plan. It's expected that the business plan will help EAGC transform its service delivery by creating business services that are precisely aligned to its membership needs. During the month of April, EAGC worked with EATH to identify experts/consultants who would develop the Business Plan with EAGC. The plan is expected to be reviewed during a retreat scheduled for 17th and 18th July 2014. However, these dates are subject to the start of the business planning consultancy. The date will be synchronized with the consultant's work plan.

### 2. Increase Access to and utilization of Regional Market Intelligence and Trade Information

#### 2.1 Market and Border Monitoring for EAGC RATIN

EAGC continued collecting, collating and disseminating data through the EAGC - Regional Agricultural Trade Intelligence Network ([www.ratin.net](http://www.ratin.net)). EAGC worked with 19 monitors (see attachment below) to monitor key cereal markets and borders. In addition to the monitors and markets monitored above, in Tanzania, market prices for 6 markets (Arusha, Dodoma, Morogoro, Mbeya, Songea, Tanga and Mwanza) were collected by EAGC Tanzania Office staff and Nakuru and Kitale market in Kenya collected by our field officers. This brings the total of markets monitored under EAGC RATIN to 28 Markets and 5 Border points.



EAGC Market  
Monitors by Market L

#### 2.2 EAGC RATIN Usage Monitoring

The data was uploaded timely on RATIN to support in real time provision of market information. Following the analyses of the RATIN data, the EAGC RATIN daily, weekly and monthly cross border reports were produced and disseminated to grain stakeholders and uploaded on RATIN site. The RATIN website has been used by various grain stakeholders across the region. EAGC has been tracking the amount of traffic on the website and it shows that RATIN recorded 12,733 visitors in the month of April. Attached below is a table of EAGC RATIN web statistics for March-April 2014 and the Google Analytics Reports.

Month	Unique visitors	Number of visits	Pages	Hits
Mar-14	5,535	13,118	69,449	465,493
Apr-14	5,644	12,733	84,334	551,851



Analytics

www.ratin.net Location



Analytics

www.ratin.net Audio



Analytics

www.ratin.net Pages

During the Month, EAGC and the rice stakeholders in Tanzania met to review the data collection methodology of the rice prices in Tanzania. The current system monitored the grade 1 Rice standards, as known in the Tanzanian Market. This is locally referred to as the Mbeya rice, which determines the rice prices in Tanzania. However, it was agreed that for ease of comparison, EAGC will collect data on all the available rice varieties in the market and report so that the users can compare on the prices across the board.

### 2.3 Support and Maintain Regional Food Balance Sheet (RFBS)

EAGC continued engaging the private sector contributors in the regional food balance sheet within the region. Below is a table that shows the RFBS data contribution from private sector in the month of April 2014:

Country	Listed Contributors	Submitted in April	April Target
Kenya	18	11	14
Uganda	75	22	30
Tanzania	22	5	18
Rwanda	18	14	10
Burundi	17	13	10

Attached below is the detailed EAGC RFBS report for April 2014.



EAGC REGIONAL  
FOOD BALANCE SHEET

EAGC has a role of coordinating National Food Balance Sheet Committee Meetings. The meetings have been scheduled to take place starting May 2014. Below is the Schedule of the National Food Balance Sheet meetings per country.

#### Schedule of National Food Balance Sheet Meetings

	MAY	JUNE	JULY
Rwanda	29th	25th	23th
Tanzania	30th	27th	31th
Burundi	28th	24th	22th
Uganda		5th	6th

Kenya	26th	24th	3th
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## 2.4 Develop RATIN Sustainability Business Model

Following the hiring of Charity Hanif to develop the RATIN Business Model, a planning meeting was held at EAGC on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2014. The planning meeting was aimed coming up with a process for developing the RATIN Business model. The consultant was scheduled to meet EAGC members and other RATIN users

## 2.5 Maintain the RTVT system

EAGC MIS team and the IT consultant-Allan Kiprop had a planning meeting on RTVT activities. In the meeting, the team also reviewed the inception report that was earlier developed by the IT consultant. This culminated to the finalization of the Inception Report.

EAGC plans to carry out field trips to follow up on the RTVT data transmission by registered warehouses and identify new warehouses. Storage capacities for each of the listed warehouses will also be collected by EAGC. Attached below is a list of priority warehouses per country.



Priority List for  
RTVT.docx

## 1. Support the implementation of recently harmonized regional Staple Foods standards

### 1.1. Review of SOW for the review of EAS 2013 Trainer's Guide and Promotional Materials

EAGC reviewed the Scope of Work for the review of the Trainer's Guide and Promotional Materials for the EAC standards. The finalization of the SOW initiated the process of hiring a consultant by USADI EATH. The review of these materials is very important and timely in supporting the development and implementation of the EAS 2013 Staple foods standards guidelines and fostering consistent dissemination, training and awareness by EAGC and other stakeholders.

C. Status of Projected Milestones for April 2014							
KEY		EAGC					
		Consultant					
		EAGC & EATH					
		EATH					
Activity	Actions	Deliverables	April				
			Wk 1	Wk 2	Wk 3	Wk 4	Status
Conduct EAGC Business Plan Meeting in Naivasha	Develop SOW for the development of Business Plan	Scope of Work					

	Engage Consultants						Done
<b>Support and maintain RFBS for the 5 EAC countries</b>	RFBS Follow-ups and Private sector recruitment						Ongoing
	Regional MIS Travels on RFBS in UG, RW, TZ, BRD	Trip Reports/RFBS Data			14th - 17th	21st, 25th, 29th & 30th	Trips moved to May
	National Food Balance Sheet Committee Meetings	Minutes		8th - 9th			Moved to May ( see the schedule of meetings above)
	National Travels to recruit Contributors	Private Sector Contributors			14th - 18th	21st - 25th	Local trips moved to May
	EAGC/EATH Review Meetings	Review Targets			15th		Review Meeting- held on 24th April
<b>Maintain market &amp; border monitors submitting daily price data to RATIN</b>	Maintain Market Monitors	Timely data		Daily			Done
<b>Maintain the RTVT system</b>	National Travels to recruit RTVT Contributors	RTVT Data			14th - 18th	21st - 25th	Scheduled for May
	Regional Travel to Burundi and Rwanda on RTVT Training	System installed			14th - 17th		Scheduled for May
<b>Conduct RATIN User survey</b>	Consultancy on RATIN						Folded into RATIN Sustainability
<b>Develop RATIN Sustainability Business Model</b>	Consultancy on RATIN Business Model						Consultant engaged
<b>Review of Promotional / Training Materials for EAC standards</b>	EATH and EAGC develop SOW and engage consultants to finalize the materials	Final promotional materials and Grader's User guide					SOW reviewed and finalized
<b>Conduct Regional Workshop Sampling/ Grading Methods in Entebbe</b>	Consultant engaged						Consultant engaged